

April 7, 2005

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

MINUTES

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. AUDIO CASSETTE TAPE OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Executive Committee of the Southern California Association of Governments held its meeting at SCAG offices downtown Los Angeles. The meeting was called to order by Councilmember Young, Vice President President. There was a quorum.

Committee Members Present

Councilmember Toni Young	1st Vice President
Councilmember Lee Ann Garcia	Chair TCC
Councilmember Richard Dixon	Chair, Admin Committee
Councilmember Margaret Clark	Chair, EEC
Councilmember Deborah Robertson	Chair, CEHD

Committee Members Not Present

Councilmember Ron Roberts	President
Supervisor Yvonne Burke	2 nd Vice President

Others Present

Councilmember Sid Tyler	RC Member
-------------------------	-----------

Staff Present

Mark Pisano, Executive Director
Jim Gosnell, Deputy Executive Director
Heather Copp, Chief Financial Officer
Colin Lennard, General Counsel
Karen Tachiki, Chief Counsel
Hasan Ikhrata, Director, Planning & Policy
Shelia Stewart, Executive Assistant
Judy Owens, Sr. Administrative Assistant

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Young

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments presented at this time.

3.0 DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Approval Items

3.1.1 Approval of March 3, 2005 Minutes

It was MOVED (Dixon), SECONDED (Young) and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

3.1.2 Federal Lobbyist Report

John Cline, C2 Group, gave a report on major legislative efforts taking place on the Hill. He reported that the Transportation Infrastructure Committee marked up and passed their version of the TEA bill. The Senate has had mark ups of the bill in the Environmental Public Works and Banking Committee. He noted that the Finance Committee and Commerce Committee markup will happen within the next couple of weeks, with a targeted Senate floor date near the end of the month.

Mr. Cline briefed the Executive Committee on SCAG's priorities and strategies.

With regard to extensions - mainly member projects were added as a means of assisting to get the bills to the conference. He reported that there is a commitment from Chairman Lewis and Chairman Drier that \$900 million will be for the Alameda Corridor East project, which is a key point in the SCAG Consensus Program. This is a major victory.

He reported that Congressman Graves will be introducing legislation sometime during the next ten days that includes the freight rail provision as well as the innovative finance changes to TIFIA.

3.1.3 Status of Native American Outreach

Joe Myers, Executive Director, National Indian Justice Center, gave a brief update on the status of the outreach. He stated that the 16 tribes of the region consider themselves as sovereign nations like all other federally recognized tribes. They have the authority and power to make laws and be governed by those laws within the exterior boundaries of their territories.

A meeting was held on April 1, 2005 in Riverside with staff to discuss - SCAG's relationship with the Tribal Nations in the SCAG region. He stated that feedback and responses were very positive at the meeting, and there have also been informal discussions with tribal leaders in which feedback and responses were positive.

With regard to next steps, Mr. Myers stated that it's time to engage in detailed work regarding building relationships with the tribal nations and drafting a plan to accomplish this task. He suggested one way to start building relationships, possibly creating a plan to include the tribal nations' participation within the SCAG infrastructure, as well as seeking organization-to-organization relationships (i.e. Tribal Nations Chairman Association)

He concluded his report by stating that building relationships, how one deals with the MOUs with the tribal governments can be worked out by conducting working meetings with staff on an on-going basis. Several meetings have been scheduled over the next six months.

Jim Gosnell commented that although Mr. Myers suggested that SCAG staff be involved in all phases of the process, he stated that staff is currently exchanging information regarding roles and responsibilities as well as reviewing the Bylaws. He emphasized that staff does not want to take a position of negotiating for the Regional Council and will seek guidance prior to pursuing next steps.

4.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mark Pisano stated that he would give an in-depth report to the Regional Council regarding what's going on in Sacramento regarding: 1) Housing Element Reform; 2) Goods Movement Action Plan; and 3) CEQA Streamlining.

5.0 LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

5.1 Closed Session

- Deanna Wetherbee-Distel et al. vs. Miguel Leon Martin et al.; Southern California Association of Governments; Riverside Transit Agency; Western Municipal Water District- Claim for Injuries/Wrongful Death Claim; Case Number: RIC 417340
Conference with Legal Counsel re: pending litigation, pursuant to Cal. Gov. Code Section 54956.9

No closed session was held on this matter.

- Morrison v. SCAG
Morrison v. Southern California
Association of Governments et al. Superior Court,
Los Angeles County, Case No. BC 312066
Conference with Legal Counsel Government Code
section 54956.9(a)

A report was given in closed session by Counsel. No action was taken.

- Havens v. SCAG
Havens v. Southern California Association of Governments,
Los Angeles County, Case No. BC 324931
Conference with Legal Counsel re: pending litigation
Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(a)

No closed session was held on this matter.

5.0 ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2005

Mark Pisano, Executive Director